IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

10/017,852

Confirmation No.:

9597

Applicant

Norris et al.

Filed

12/12/01

TC/A.U. Examiner

2667 Thai D. Hoang

Docket No.

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Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Technology Center 2600

AMENDMENT

SIR:

In response to the Office Action mailed on November 18, 2003, with the three-month shortened statutory period for response set to expire on February 18, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.